Gosadans for stray cattle

46. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Animal Husbandry is performing its duties of establishing "Gosadans", where stray cattle could be kept and properly looked after;

(b) if so, the reasons why so many stray cattle are seen in the streets and who, often eat garbage and plastic bags which affects their health and causes extreme trauma; and

(c) what is the long-term strategy of the Department in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) The Department of Animal Husbandry.is not implementing any scheme for establishing Gosadans where stray cattle could be kept and looked after. However, the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries is implementing National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding under which assistance is given to Goshalas for breeding purposes.

(b) In view of (a), question does not arise.

(c) Proper upkeep of stray cattle is under the jurisdiction of Animal Welfare Division under Ministry of Environment and Forests.

Direct subsidy to farmers

47. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether is it proposed to provide direct subsidy on fertilizers to farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any objection to it; and

(d) if so, how it is proposed to overcome?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) to (d) A Group of Ministers has been formed to look into sustainable use of fertilizers and pertinent subsidy and pricing issues. The GoM is looking into various issues pertaining to fertilizer sector including the issue of direct subsidy on fertilizers to farmers. The recommendations of GoM are not yet finalised.

Production of antirabies vaccines

48. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether NGOs under the garb of religion are opposing effective measures to eliminate the menace of dog and monkey bites, but tacitly are colliding with drug manufacturing units so that production of antirabies vaccines is not adversely affected; and

(b) what is the production growth of antirabies manufacturing units, product-wise and money-wise during the last three years?